

SUBCHAPTER A—ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES

PART 2600—ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. App. (Ethics in Government Act of 1978); E.O. 12674, 54 FR 15159, 3 CFR, 1989 Comp., p. 215, as modified by E.O. 12731, 55 FR 42547, 3 CFR, 1990 Comp., p. 306.

SOURCE: 55 FR 39589, Sept. 28, 1990, unless otherwise noted.

§ 2600.101 Statement of the history and purpose of the Office of Government Ethics.

The U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) is an executive branch agency which is responsible for overseeing and providing guidance on Government ethics for the executive branch, including the ethics programs of executive departments and agencies. OGE was created by the Ethics in Government Act ("the Act") of 1978, Public Law No. 95-521, as amended. OGE was originally part of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). Public Law No. 100-598 of November 3, 1988, provided for OGE's separate agency status, effective October 1, 1989. The Act created OGE to provide overall direction for executive branch policies designed to prevent conflicts of interest and to help insure high ethical standards on the part of agency officers and employees. Pursuant to the Ethics Reform Act of 1989 (Public Law No. 101-194), as revised by the technical amendments of May 4, 1990 (Public Law No. 101-280), OGE is the "supervising ethics office" for the executive branch for various purposes, including public and confidential financial disclosure reporting by executive agency officials. OGE also has various Government ethics guidance responsibilities under Executive Order 12674 of April 12, 1989, "Principles of Ethical Conduct for Government Officers and Employees" (3 CFR 1989 Compilation, pp. 215-218).

§ 2600.102 Office of Government Ethics address.

The Office of Government Ethics is located at suite 500, 1201 New York Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20005-3917. OGE has no regional offices.

§ 2600.103 Office of Government Ethics divisions; functions.

(a) The Office of Government Ethics is divided into the following offices:

- (1) The Office of the Director;
- (2) The Office of the General Counsel;
- (3) The Office of Monitoring and Compliance;
- (4) The Office of Education; and
- (5) The Office of Administration.

(b) *The Office of the Director.* The Director of the Office of Government Ethics is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The responsibilities of the OGE Director include: Advising the White House and executive branch Presidential appointees on Government ethics matters; maintaining ethics liaison with and providing guidance on ethics to executive branch departments and agencies; providing ethics liaison to the Congress; responding to public and press inquiries on ethics; and overseeing and coordinating all OGE rules, regulations, formal advisory opinions and major policy decisions. The OGE Deputy Director is also attached to this office and assists the Director in carrying out OGE's responsibilities, including serving as Acting Director in the absence of the Director.

(c) *The Office of the General Counsel.* The responsibilities of the OGE Office of the General Counsel include: Developing regulations and approving executive agency implementation under conflict of interest laws, administrative standards of conduct, post-Government employment restrictions, and public and confidential financial disclosure reporting; initiating executive branch administrative ethics corrective actions; reviewing public financial disclosure statements of advice-and-consent Presidential executive branch nominees, to identify and resolve conflicts; advising the OGE Director whether to